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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 17, 2023**

**NWLSD ANNOUNCES WATKINS AS DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION**

CINCINNATI, OH - Northwest Local School District (NWLSD) proudly welcomes Brad Watkins as the Director of Special Education.

Mr. Watkins has been a member of the NWLSD family since 2015. He currently serves as the Principal of Pleasant Run Middle School (PRMS). Watkins brings a wealth of experience, serving over twelve years as an administrator and having served as a Special Education teacher. Prior to working at PRMS, he served as the Assistant Principal and Athletic Director at Northwest High School and Assistant Principal of the Hamilton Freshman School.

“I am especially grateful for my time at Pleasant Run Middle School and will forever cherish the relationships established there,” says Watkins. “Pleasant Run will always have a special place in my heart!”

Mr. Watkins is originally from Southwest Ohio. He graduated from California University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor's in special education; he later received his master's in educational leadership from the University of Cincinnati in 2011.

Watkins is eager to get started and will step into the new role as Director of Special Education on August 1, at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.

“I am humbled and excited to be joining the team at the Central Support Offices and to work with such a great group of dedicated leaders,” says Watkins. “Northwest Local School District is a special place and

full of amazing students, families and staff. I am committed to ensuring that all stakeholders are supported and that our students receive the very best opportunities to succeed!”

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Northwest Local School District is the 2nd largest school district in Hamilton County and is located north of the City of Cincinnati. The District encompasses 56 square miles, and includes Colerain Township, Green Township, Ross Township and Springfield Township in Hamilton County, Ohio within its parameters. The district educates approximately 9,000 students within one pre-school, five elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools.

**NWLSD Mission**

*The Northwest Local School District will create a responsive learning community where all students are valued, challenged and guided along a pathway to success.*

**NWLSD Core Beliefs:**

- *We believe students and staff excel best when they feel welcomed in the building, safe in their classrooms and trustful of each other*
- *We believe all students and staff can learn and deserve opportunities to show and achieve success*
- *We believe valuing diversity and working to understand one another is vital and important*
- *We believe a high priority should be placed on providing holistic support to ensure success for all*
- *We believe building and maintaining collaborative relationships with community member is foundational to teaching and learning in NWLSD*